

residents in Goose Creek. But not long after, in 1947, residents of Pelly and Goose Creek held simultaneous elections and voted overwhelmingly to merge. The new community held another election in 1948 to adopt a new charter and the name Baytown.

Since that time, Baytown has become a thriving city of 70,000 with a vibrant economy, strong schools, safe neighborhoods, and active, involved citizens. Baytown has made a tremendous investment in its quality of life through improvements to its roads, parks, and the Bayland Park Marina. The City of Baytown is building a better future and laying the foundation for another fifty years of progress.

One key to Baytown's progress has been transportation improvements for a city once isolated. There is no better symbol of that improvement than the Hartman Bridge, named after the late Baytown Sun Publisher Fred Hartman. A feat of technology and one of the largest suspension bridges in the world, the Hartman Bridge has integrated Baytown and the East Bay into the fabric of Harris County like never before, easing transportation, spurring commerce, and helping make Baytown a driving force in the Texas economy. The bridge has opened doors for local business, allowing companies like Exxon, Bayer, Chevron, and Amoco to transport their goods to the Houston Ship Channel and destinations beyond. The bridge is a symbol of Baytown's progress and a sign of even better times to come.

Baytown also boasts some of the finest schools in the nation, a testament to the dedication of teachers, administrators, community leaders, parents, and students. Goose Creek Independent School District schools are among the state leaders in advanced placement programs, and students' SAT scores in math are among the highest in the nation. Goose Creek schools have been ahead of the curve in preparing young people to maximize their opportunity to succeed. It is also at community colleges like Lee College in Baytown that America's workers are getting a chance to advance their education and their careers.

The success of Baytown's schools underscores what may be its most important attribute of all—the involvement of Baytown's citizens in making this community such a great place to live, work, and raise a family. The citizens of Baytown understand that it is our government, our schools, our parks, our churches and our neighborhoods, and we make them better when we take the time to get involved. The results are projects like the Eddie V. Gray Wetlands Education and Recreation Center, which teams up local schools, industry and civic leaders to protect local marshes and develop environmentally friendly classes on hobbies such as fly fishing, bird watching, and safe hunting skills. Another fine project is the Chamber of Commerce's Partnership in Education program in which local businesses volunteer their time and resources to area schools.

The past fifty years have not all been easy, but through it all—the boom times and the busts—the character of Baytown's citizens has shone through. That character has helped build such a strong city in just fifty years and will lead to even greater success in the next fifty years.

Mr. Speaker, I was honored to join in Baytown's 50th anniversary celebration and look forward to working with all Baytonians to help

make the next fifty years of Baytown history as memorable as the first fifty.

The following song, Baytown is Home to Me, by Kevin Hardin, was written especially for the 50th Anniversary:

BAYTOWN IS HOME TO ME  
(By Kevin Hardin)

Chorus:

Baytown is home to me  
If I stay forever or if one day I leave  
The people and the places have my roots  
down deep

Baytown is home to me

Verse:

Some came from New York, some came from  
Tennessee

Some remember Pelly, some recall Goose  
Creek

From rice farms in the marshes to oil rigs in  
the bay

This boom town is still booming today.

Chorus:

Baytown is home to me  
If I stay forever or if one day I leave  
The people and the places have my roots  
down deep

Baytown is home to me

Verse:

From Sterling and the Rangers to the Gan-  
ders flying high

Churches, schools, and businesses are full of  
Baytown pride

From a boat across the bayou, now a bridge  
across the bay

Baytown is still growing today.

Chorus:

Baytown is home to me  
If I stay forever or if one day I leave  
The people and the places have my roots  
down deep

Baytown is home to me

A GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY FOR A  
GOLDEN COUPLE

**HON. JAMES A. BARCIA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 1998*

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, anything of real value endures, and the longer it endures, the greater its value. If it is possible for something to become even more priceless than priceless, it is the love two people have for each other that results in marriage, the establishment and growth of a family, and a protective nest from all the challenges the world presents to us.

I am pleased to tell our colleagues that on December 20th, two wonderful people, Donald and Dorothy Keinath of Caro, Michigan, celebrated their most special 50th anniversary of marriage. Together with their children Karen and Russell and his wife Mary, their grandchildren Natalie, Anne, Joseph, and Julia, and the great number of friends their years of work and community involvement have brought to them, they were able to celebrate their anniversary in a manner befitting their years of devotion.

Don had two instances of great luck about fifty years ago. First, while he was a private first class in the Marine Corps, he was one of the lucky young men at the time who had the war in the Pacific come to an end before his unit was scheduled to ship out. Then at the Tuscola County Fair he met his future wife, Dorothy Brinkman, who liked looking at the pigs Don had on display. After their wedding on December 20, 1947, they honeymooned in

Washington, DC, marking the first of many trips the couple would make to Washington and elsewhere since that time. They love to travel, having journeyed to places as intriguing as Australia and Morocco.

Their home, however, has been their secure base for their years together. Don has been a farmer the entire time, still operating a 420 acre farm producing dry beans, sugar beets, barley, and wheat. He has served as a member of the Michigan Bean Commission for six years, and has also been a director of important sugar beet grower associations—the Farmers and Manufacturers, and now the Great Lakes Sugar Beet Growers Association—for thirty years. For twenty-nine of those years, he has served as an officer, including his current tenure as President of the Caro Sugar Beet Growers Association. He also received Michigan State University's Distinguished Service to Agriculture award in 1993.

He has been very active with his church, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, including its building committee. Both he and Dorothy have served as Sunday School teachers. Dorothy has also been heavily involved with the Altar Guild at the church, and had also been a teacher before the needs of the family guided her into other activities.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly difficult for me to think of two kinder or more generous people than Don and Dorothy Keinath. Their lives together have been a blessing for each other, and a treat for those of us fortunate enough to know them. I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing them the happiest of anniversaries, on this their fiftieth, and many more to come.

HONORING RABBI MICHAEL WHIT-  
MAN FOR TEN YEARS OF COM-  
MUNITY SERVICE

**HON. ROSA DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 1998*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, December 14, Rabbi Michael Whitman will be honored for ten years of dedicated service to his community and the Young Israel House. Rabbi Whitman is a unique man marked by his integrity and commitment to his heritage.

Rabbi Whitman's work on behalf of the Jewish community has earned him the respect and admiration of all who know him. A deeply caring and compassionate man, he has devoted himself to making a difference for others—and he has truly left his mark on his community. From his work at the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen to serving as a board member for the New Haven Homeless Resource Center, Rabbi Whitman has always found the time to devote to worthy causes and organizations. His steadfast determination and perseverance are remarkable, as is his vision for a more unified world and his commitment in working toward that vision.

An educator who has taught with distinction, Rabbi Whitman has extensive knowledge about law and the Jewish culture. He has published several articles and promotes learning as a way of life. Rabbi Whitman engages and motivates his students, encouraging open dialogue about thought-provoking issues. His classrooms give young people the opportunity